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REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-12 are pending.

Figure 21 has been labeled as prior art and a replacement sheet is attached at the end of this paper.

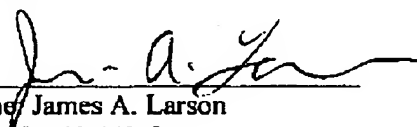
The Abstract has been revised to comply with the 150-word limit and, at the Examiner's suggestion, to eliminate the implied phrase "the present invention".

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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